

Issue NE-CW3904, released September 27, 2004, by the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA . For more information contact us at: 100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-437-5541 or e-mail at [nass-ne@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-ne@nass.usda.gov). Homepage - <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

**Agricultural Summary:** For the week ending September 26, 2004, rainfall received during the week came too late to improve current year crops but will benefit fall seeded wheat, alfalfa, and pastures, according to USDA’s Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. The rain slowed harvest progress with most harvest activity centered on dryland crops and soybeans. Producer activities also included finishing silage harvest, fall wheat seeding, and harvesting alfalfa.

**Weather Summary:** Temperatures for the week averaged from 3 degrees below normals in the Panhandle to 8 degrees above normals in the southeast. Precipitation was statewide and ranged from 1 to 3 inches in most areas except the Panhandle.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending September 26, 2004				
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Percent				
Topsoil				
Very Short	9	17	28	26
Short	24	39	37	33
Adequate	65	44	34	39
Surplus	2	0	1	2
Subsoil				
Very Short	44	40	43	41
Short	31	34	41	30
Adequate	25	26	16	29
Surplus	0	0	0	0
Days Suitable	4.0	5.2	6.4	6.0

**Field Crops Report:** Corn condition rated 5 percent very poor, 6 poor, 21 fair, 42 good, and 26 excellent, above last year and average. Irrigated fields rated 78 percent good and excellent while dryland fields rated 53. This compares to 76 and 14, respectively, a year ago. Ninety-six percent had dented, behind last year at 97 and average at 99. Fifty-one percent of the fields were considered mature, behind last year at 66 and average at 80. Harvest was 7 percent complete, behind last year at 10 and average at 15.

Soybeans condition rated 5 percent very poor, 11 poor, 26 fair, 43 good, and 15 excellent, above last year and average. Plants had dropped leaves on 83 percent of the acreage, ahead of last year at 71 percent and average at 78. Harvest was 17 percent complete, ahead of last year at 9 and average at 12.

Sorghum condition rated 5 percent very poor, 12 poor, 43 fair, 35 good, and 5 excellent, above last year and average. Fields were showing color on 93 percent of the acreage, ahead of last year at 92 but behind average at 95. Thirty-nine percent of the acreage was mature, behind last year at 45 and average at 65. Harvest was underway in several districts with 3 percent complete, behind last year at 6 and average at 18.

Dry bean conditions rated 8 percent very poor, 15 poor, 30 fair, 39 good, and 8 excellent. Ninety-five percent had turned color,

behind last year and average at 97. Sixty-four percent had dropped leaves, well behind last year at 90 and average at 88. Seventeen percent were harvested, behind last year at 59 and average at 63.

Proso millet harvest progressed to 40 percent complete, behind last year at 74.

Wheat seeding moved ahead to 68 percent planted, behind last year at 77 and average at 73. Thirty-nine percent had emerged, behind last year at 43 but ahead of average at 36.

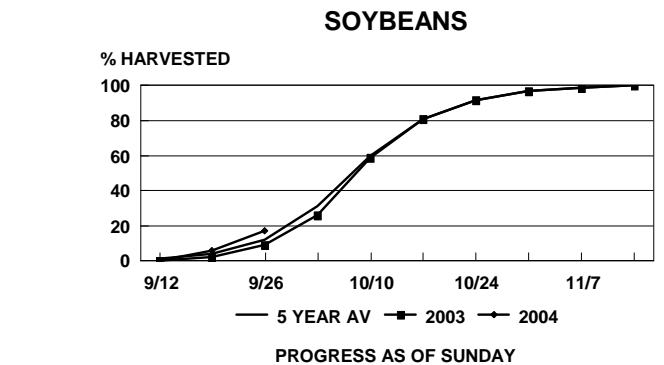
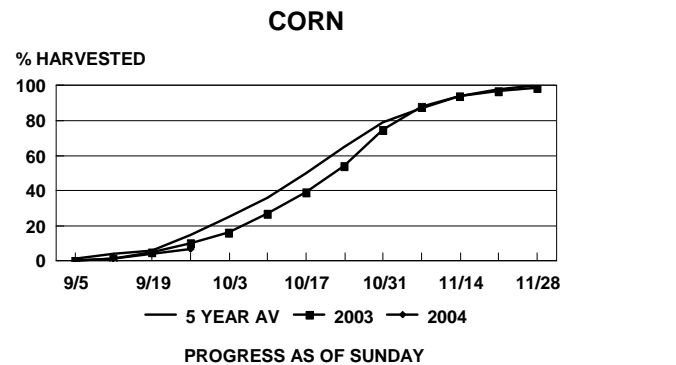
Alfalfa conditions rated 15 percent very poor, 18 poor, 34 fair, 26 good, and 7 excellent, above last year and average. Fourth cutting activities were 56 percent harvested, behind last year at 70 and average at 66.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending September 26, 2004				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Percent				
Alfalfa 4 <sup>th</sup> Cutting	56	28	70	66
Corn Mature	51	32	66	80
Corn Harvested	7	4	10	15
Sorghum Turning Color	93	82	92	95
Sorghum Mature	39	15	45	65
Sorghum Harvested	3	1	6	18
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	83	57	71	78
Soybeans Harvested	17	6	9	12
Wheat Seeded	68	48	77	73
Wheat Emerged	39	14	43	36

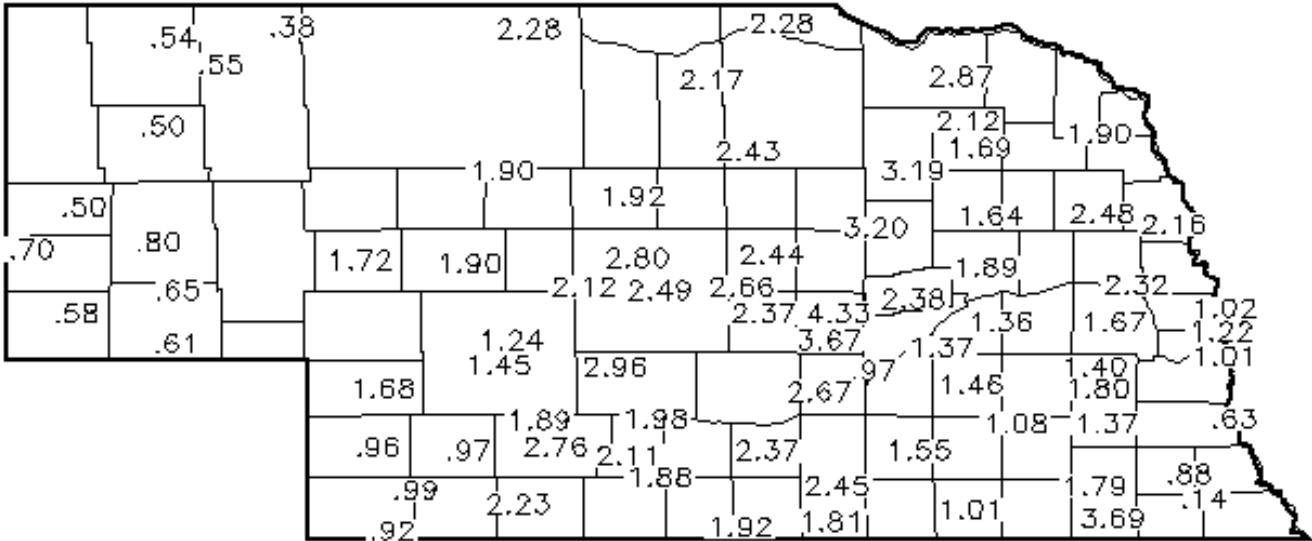
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending September 26, 2004					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Alfalfa	15	18	34	26	7
Corn	5	6	21	42	26
Sorghum	5	12	43	35	5
Soybeans	5	11	26	43	15

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report:** Pasture and range condition rated 27 percent very poor, 23 poor, 33 fair, 16 good, and 1 excellent, above a year ago but below average.

*This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: [http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts\\_cur.htm](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm). For those receiving an e-mail text version of this publication, a complete version including crop progress charts and precipitation maps can be found at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/2004.htm>.*



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending September 26, 2004



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - September 26, 2004

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week 1	.53	2.27	2.24	2.68	1.72	1.62	2.13	1.45
Total since April 1	13.48	16.95	20.22	18.12	17.69	18.27	17.77	19.06
Normal since April 1	12.86	16.36	19.00	18.03	20.66	15.40	17.83	21.67
Total as % of normal	104%	103%	106%	100%	85%	118%	100%	88%

Source: High Plains Climate Center data as of 8:00 a.m.

Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,  
Week Ending Sunday, September 26, 2004

Station		Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15		
		Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal
		High	Low					
NW	Alliance	79	38	54	-3	61	2228	2561
	Scottsbluff	81	36	56	-1	68	2393	2557
	Sidney	80	36	55	-2	66	2315	2635
NC	Ainsworth	80	43	58	-2	67	2531	2885
	Arthur	80	40	56	-3	61	2351	2793
	O'Neill	80	41	59	-1	75	2588	2970
NE	Concord	81	43	64	+3	105	2593	3048
	Elgin	81	44	62	+1	87	2631	2996
	West Point	88	42	66	+4	119	2762	3170
C	Grand Island	84	43	63	+3	100	2852	2972
	Lexington	84	44	62	+2	92	2921	2912
	Ord	81	43	62	+2	94	2740	2945
EC	Lincoln	89	47	69	+6	132	3172	3273
	Central City	85	43	65	+4	114	2867	3021
	Mead	89	45	67	+5	127	2946	3247
SW	Champion	86	41	58	-1	80	2593	2822
	North Platte	83	39	58	-1	79	2690	2860
	Curtis	82	41	60	0	86	2792	2867
SC	Smithfield	83	43	61	+2	89	2777	2922
	Minden	82	43	63	+3	95	2889	2941
	Red Cloud	88	45	68	+8	128	3080	3004
SE	Beatrice	87	46	68	+6	131	3100	3273
	Clay Center	85	45	66	+5	115	2856	3000
	Nemaha	88	51	71	+8	143	3217	3291

Source: High Plains Climate Center.